

Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota

Office of the Governor

Whereas, Ralph Maurice Christopherson was born on December 15, 1917, on the family farm near Gayville, South Dakota, the ninth of ten children; and,

Whereas, Birthdays commemorate the first day of our lives, and we celebrate the birthdays of those we love as we recognize the joys and sorrows we have shared, the strength we have gained from the obstacles and hardships we have conquered, and the small daily pleasures life offers; and,

Whereas, Ralph assisted with the family farm operation as a young man, served overseas during World War II, and returned to California when the war ended; and,

Whereas, Ralph met and married Bobbi Peterson in California, returned to South Dakota where they farmed near Mission Hill for over 60 years, and have enjoyed the activities of their two children, Michele and Rob, four grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren; and,

Whereas, Ralph will observe his 90th Birthday with all the good wishes, fanfare, and celebration such a milestone warrants, as his friends and relatives gather to honor him and celebrate his life and the camaraderie of the day; and it is fitting and proper for the Governor to make note of this milestone in the life of a man who has lived an exemplary life for all to emulate:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim December 15, 2007, as

RALPH CHRISTOPHERSON DAY

in South Dakota, and I join his friends and relatives in wishing him a very happy birthday, good health, and great happiness.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Third Day of December in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Seven.



M. Michael Rounds

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

Chris Nelson

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State